Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph **[0211]** with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0211] For instance, the simulator control valve 127 is controlled according to a control routine illustrated in the flow chart of Fig. 12. This control routine is initiated with step S31 to determine whether the operating stroke S_P is equal to or larger than a predetermined threshold SA. If an affirmative decision (YES) is obtained in step SA31, the control flow goes to step S32 to determine whether a rate of increase ΔS_P of the operating stroke S_P is equal to or higher than a predetermined threshold ΔSb. If the rate of increase ΔS_P is equal to or higher than the threshold ΔSb, it indicates that the operating stroke S_P tends to be increased. In this case, the control flow goes to step ~~S3~~ S33 to control the duty ratio of the simulator control valve 127, so as to reduce the amount of flow of the fluid into the stroke simulator 126, for thereby reducing the rate of increase ΔS_P of the operating stroke S_P. If the operating stroke S_P is smaller than the threshold Sa, or if the rate of increase ΔS_P is lower than the threshold ΔSb, the control flow goes to step S34 to place the simulator control valve 127 in the open state, rather than to control its duty ratio.